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Pages: 4, including this

Subject: Response to Examiner, Application Number 10/065,787

Bettinger 10/065,787

Application/Control Number: 10/065,787

Art Unit: 3679

Examiner: James M. Hewitt 703 305-0552

Supervisor: Daniel Stodola 703 308-2686

Title: **COMPRESSED SEAL FOR A MOVABLE JOINT**

Inventor: David S. Bettinger 734 675-8295 techpart@comcast.net

Filing Date: 11/19/2002

In answer to Office Action: 01/27/2005

This Response Faxed: 03/11/2005 703 872-9306

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REMARKS

35 U.S.C. 132

Examiner states: "The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows:

The amendment to claim 1 which adds that *the outer pipe member is radially deflected elastically*.

Applicant respectfully submits that support for this amendment is found in the-

Summary of Invention Section

[0008] the current invention simply stated focuses upon a telescoping joint possessing an external band and clamp that is tensioned after assembly to compress and *radially deflect the outer pipe member*.

[0010]The internal resistive stress of the outer pipe relaxes, yet its *deflective radius* is maintained. and the inner pipe member also *elastically deflect* Thus this invention can claim to use 100% of the *elastic range of the outer pipe to create deflection*

Detailed Description

[0030] an outer circumferentially tensioned band and clamp 4 positioned longitudinally and selected to produce a compressive force 5 to *radially deflect the outer pipe member* and thereby compress and *deflect* the generally cylindrical resilient and *elastic* seal with a *deflection* shown at 6

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment to claim 1 **does not introduce new matter into the disclosure.**

35 U.S.C. 103 (a)

The examiner is correct in his targeting of the elastic radial deflection as the key point that differentiates Bettinger from a combination of Shafer and McHughs. The object of Bettinger as disclosed in the specification Objects Section, paragraph [0024] provides a conduit for cryogenic fluids in a liquid rocket engine. That object reads

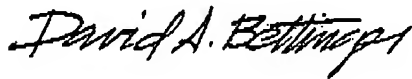
[0024] It is yet another object of the current invention to provide a degree of restraint in a telescoping expansion joint to resist the axial loading thrust that is the result of internal pressure within a pipe while providing the freedom of movement necessary to allow for the larger axial loading thrust that is the result of thermal contraction and expansion of pipe runs due to intermittent cryogenic fluid flow.

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Because of the inclusion of elastic deflection as the key of Bettinger's claims, the object above cannot be satisfied by a combination of Shafer and McHughes since Shafer is a fixed joint that is only movable by manual attention to bolts. McHughes discloses a free-sliding telescoping joint with no pressure resistance except fixed packing material that is manually installed prior to operations.

Applicant respectfully submits that if McHughes and Shafer are combined, then the through-bolts of Shafer (60 on Fig. 2) defeat the telescoping capability of McHughes.

Respectfully submitted,



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